

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 6-26 are pending in the application, with claims 6 and 10 being the independent claims. Claims 1-5 are canceled.

Based on the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

In the Action on page 4 in section 8, the Examiner states that claims 6-26 are objected to and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 6 and 10 are rewritten to include the subject matter of base claims 1 and 3. Applicants therefore respectfully request that claims 6-26 be allowed.

Objections to the Drawings

In the Action on pages 2-3, the Drawings are objected to as not showing the evaluation unit recited in claim 1 and described in the specification. Fig. 1 is amended to show the evaluation unit that is described, for example, in paragraphs 0030 and 0031. Paragraphs 0030 and 0031 are amended to include the reference number for the evaluation unit now shown in Fig. 1. Applicants respectfully submit that the Drawings now show all of the features of the claimed invention and respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

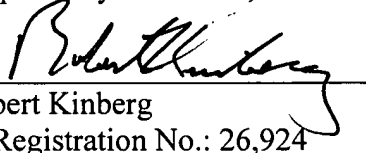
In the Action on pages 3-4 in section 7, claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,979,761 to Wurz et al. Claims 1-5 are canceled, rendering the rejection moot.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated: December 20, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. The changes add the amplifier and evaluation unit disclosed in paragraphs 0030 and 0031 but not previously shown in the Figure.

Attachment: Replacement sheet
 Annotated sheet showing changes